

[8 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

has been charged upto Sarnath. The entire project is expected to be completed by December, 2002.

From Eastern Region to Southern Region:

Talcher-Kolar HVDC bi-pole Link having convertor station at Talcher and Kolar. The project is expected to be completed by June, 2003.

(c) The following inter-regional links have been/are being planned by POWERGRID for transfer of power from Eastern Region to Northern Region and Southern Region:

From Eastern Region to Northern Region:

- (i) 400 KV D/C Muzaffarpur-Gorakhpur Transmission line together with Tala HEP Transmission System.
- (ii) 400 KV D/C line from Sasaram to Sarnath along with back up transmission between Biharshariff and Sasaram.
- (iii) 765 KV Transmission System as part of evacuation system from proposed Kahalgaon Extn. (2x660 MW) and Barh (3x660 MW) Projects.

From Eastern Region to Southern Region:

Second 500 MW HVDC module at Gazuwaka together with system strengthening works in Eastern Region and Southern Region.

Silent valley projects in Kerala

1888. SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the Hydro Electric Projects submitted by the Government of Kerala is pending for sanction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government and the technical committee appointed to study the silent valley project in

Kerala during the year 1981 agreed to review the issue of sanction after 20 years;

- (d) the reaction of Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Kerala Government has submitted any fresh proposal for the silent valley project; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) According to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), no project report for the setting up of Hydro-electric Project in Kerala is under examination for techno-economic clearance. However, Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) has been requested by CEA to submit latest detailed cost estimates in respect of Adirapally HEP (2x80 MW) for the purpose of investment approval. The environment clearance issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 1985 in respect of Puyankutty Stagc-I (2x120 MW) HEP has lapsed since the project work has not commenced and, therefore, will require fresh environment clearance. According to KSEB, application for forest and environment clearance in respect of Mankulam HEP (40 MW) has been submitted on 30.5.2001 and 5.6.2001 respectively.

(c) to (f) No fresh proposal for the Silent Valley Project has been submitted to the Government of India.

Conversion of Mega Hydel Projects into Mini Hydel Projects in H.P.

†1889. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as a result of some of the Mega Hydel Projects in Himachal Pradesh the hills are being demolished to a large extent and the environment is being spoiled;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.